

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 03540 070549Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-07 EB-07 IGA-02 OMB-01 /078 W
-----070552Z 092988 /14

R 070534Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4330

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 3540

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, US
SUBJ: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: AID AND MILITARY SALES

REF: ADDIS ABABA 3502

1. AFTER RESOLVING OUTSTANDING EMBASSY STAFFING QUESTIONS WITH FONMIN FELLEKE GEDLE-GHIORGIS (REFTEL), I COMMENTED THAT EPMG NOTE OF MAY 28 ORDERING STAFF REDUCTION SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTED OUR AID MISSION FROM CUT, WHICH WE TOOK TO MEAN THAT EPMG WISHED US TO CONTINUE AN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. I MENTIONED THAT IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN AID DIRECTOR AND VARIOUS MINISTRIES AND IN MY OWN DISCUSSION WITH PMAC CHAIRMAN MENGISTU, EMBASSY HAS INDICATED THAT U.S. DOES PLAN TO CONTINUE ACTIVE AID PROGRAM, BUT THAT IN RECENT MONTHS PROGRESS HAD BEEN VERY SLOW. IN MY VIEW, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF EPMG COULD PROVIDE USG ENCOURAGEMENT THROUGH SOME SPECIFIC POSITIVE ACTION TO DEMONSTRATE THAT EPMG STILL INTERESTED IN MOVING FORWARD.

2. MINISTER NODDED, BUT MADE NO COMMENT. HE WANTED INSTEAD TO BE SURE THAT MENGISTU'S MESSAGE IN JUNE 3 MEETING, RELATING TO THOSE UNDELIVERED U.S. ITEMS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT WHICH EPMG HAD ALREADY PAID FOR, HAD BEEN CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD. COL. FELLEKE EMPHESIZED
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THAT THIS MATTER WAS IMPORTANT, NOT BECAUSE ITEMS WOULD INCREASE EPMG DEFENSE CAPABILITY, BUT RATHER BECAUSE OF MORAL ISSUE INVOLVED. HE KNEW THAT U.S. PRIDED ITSELF ON KEEPING ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS, WHICH SO FAR HAD NOT HAPPENED IN THIS CASE. I ASSURED HIM THAT WASHINGTON HAD ALREADY BEEN INFORMED OF CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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